

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/880,288

Examiner

Peng Ke

Applicant(s)

MORROW ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/8/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-12,15-17 and 20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview Allen Lang with on 11/27/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of resizing a ~~graphical-user-interface dialog window~~ of a computer software application, the ~~graphical-user-interface dialog window~~ having at least one ~~graphical-user-interface dialog window~~ element disposed thereon, comprising:

altering the size of the ~~graphical-user-interface dialog window~~ dynamically to a selected size during running of the computer software application;

determining whether the selected size of the ~~graphical-user-interface dialog window~~ is less than a minimum size for the ~~graphical-user-interface dialog window~~, the minimum size comprising a value established in the computer software application

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wherein the value is discarded upon closing the graphical-user-interface dialog window and the value is calculated upon opening the graphical-user-interface dialog window;

if the selected size of the graphical-user-interface dialog window is less than the minimum size, then altering the size of the graphical-user-interface dialog window to the minimum size and preventing a user from manually shrinking the graphical-user interface dialog window below the minimum size;

notifying a graphical-user-interface dialog window control module that graphical user-interface dialog window interface is being resized to the minimum size;

notifying the graphical-user-interface dialog window element that it is to be repositioned on the graphical-user-interface dialog window according to a set of rules governing the position of graphical-user-interface the dialog window elements on the graphical-user-interface dialog window;

repositioning the graphical-user-interface dialog window element according to the set of rules, wherein repositioning the graphical-user-interface dialog window element includes moving the graphical-user-interface dialog window element from a first position to a second position, wherein the second position is the same relative position on the graphical-user-interface dialog window after the graphical-user-interface dialog window has been resized, as the first position of the graphical-user-interface dialog window element prior to altering the size of the graphical-user-interface dialog window to the minimum size; and

displaying the graphical-user-interface dialog window.

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2-3 (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, ~~whereby the step of wherein~~ displaying the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window, ~~includes the steps of~~ comprises:
constructing a bitmap of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window according to the selected size;
positioning the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element on the bitmap according to the set of rules; and
designating the bitmap for display.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, ~~whereby the step of wherein~~ notifying the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element that it is to be repositioned, ~~includes the steps of~~ comprises:
altering the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element in response to altering the size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, ~~whereby the step of wherein~~ altering the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element, ~~includes the steps of~~ comprises:
altering the size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, ~~whereby~~ wherein the ~~graphical user interface dialog window~~ is a dialog window for providing access to functionality of the computer software application.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, ~~whereby~~ wherein the ~~graphical user interface dialog window~~ element includes a plurality of controls disposed on the ~~graphical user interface dialog window~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of resizing a dialog window of a computer software application, the dialog window having a plurality of controls disposed thereon, comprising:

running the computer software application;

altering the size of the dialog window dynamically by user action to a selected size while the computer software application is running;

determining whether the selected size of the dialog window is less than a minimum size for the dialog window, the minimum size comprising a value established in the computer software application wherein the value is discarded upon closing the dialog window and the value is calculated upon opening the ~~graphical user interface dialog window~~;

if the selected size of the dialog window is less than the minimum size, then altering the size of the dialog window to the minimum size and preventing a user from manually shrinking the dialog window below the minimum size;

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notifying a dialog window manager module that the dialog window is being resized to the minimum size;

notifying each of the plurality of controls that it is to be repositioned on the dialog window according to a set of rules governing the position of controls on the dialog window;

repositioning the plurality of controls according to the set of rules, wherein repositioning the plurality of controls includes moving the plurality of controls from a first position to a second position, wherein the second position is the same relative position on the dialog window after the dialog window has been resized, as the first position of the plurality of controls prior to altering the size of the dialog window to the minimum size; and

displaying the dialog window.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, whereby the step of repositioning the plurality of controls according to the set of rules, further includes specifying a plurality of frames, each frame representing a region within the dialog window, the frames forming a hierarchical tree of frames, the tree of frames including at least one parent frame having at least one associated child frame, wherein a region represented by each parent frame encloses a region represented by its associated child frame, each of the plurality of controls having an associated frame; determining a minimum size of each child frame;

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determining a minimum size of each parent frame based on the minimum sizes of its child frames;

determining a position for each parent frame;

determining a position of each child frame based on the position of its parent frame;

determining a size and position of each of the plurality of controls, based on the determined size and position of its associated frames; and

designating for display within the dialog window each of the plurality of controls according to its size and position.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 9, whereby the step of displaying the dialog window, includes the steps of:

constructing a bitmap of the dialog window according the selected size;

positioning the plurality of controls on the bitmap according to the set of rules;

and

designating the bitmap for display.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions which when executed by a computer resize a ~~graphical user interface~~ dialog window of a computer software application, the ~~graphical user interface~~ dialog window having at least one ~~graphical user interface~~ dialog window element disposed thereon by performing:

altering the size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window dynamically to a selected size during running of the computer software application;

determining whether the selected size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window is less than a minimum size for the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window, the minimum size comprising a value established in the computer software application wherein the value is discarded upon closing the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window and the value is calculated upon opening the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window;

if the selected size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window is less than the minimum size, then altering the size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window to the minimum size and preventing a user from manually shrinking the dialog window below the minimum size;

notifying a ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window control module that the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window is being resized to the minimum size;

notifying the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element that it is to be repositioned on the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window according to a set of rules governing the position of ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window elements on the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window;

repositioning the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element according to the set of rules, wherein repositioning the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element includes moving the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element from a first position to a second position, wherein the second position is the same relative position on the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window after the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window

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has been resized, as the first position of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element prior to altering the size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window to the minimum size; and

displaying the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window.

13-14 (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The medium of Claim 12, ~~whereby the step of wherein~~ displaying the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window, ~~includes the steps of~~ comprises;

constructing a bitmap of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window according the selected size;

positioning the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element on the bitmap according to the set of rules; and

designating the bitmap for display.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 12, ~~whereby the step of wherein~~ notifying the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element that it is to be repositioned, ~~includes the steps of~~ comprises:

in response to notifying the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element that it is to be repositioned, altering the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window element in response to altering the size of the ~~graphical-user-interface~~ dialog window.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for resizing a dialog window of a computer software application, the dialog window having a plurality of controls disposed thereon, comprising:

a computer operating system operative to run the computer software application;

a dialog manager module operative to alter the size of the dialog window to a selected size in response to user action while the computer software application is running;

determine whether the selected size of the dialog window is less than a minimum size for ~~graphical user interface~~ dialog window, the minimum size comprising a value established in the computer software application wherein the value is discarded upon closing the ~~graphical user interface~~ dialog window and the value is calculated upon opening the dialog window;

if the selected size of the dialog window is less than the minimum size, then alter the size of the dialog window to the minimum size and prevent a user from manually shrinking the dialog window below the minimum size;

the computer operating system further operative to notify a dialog window manager module that the dialog window is being resized to the minimum size;

the dialog manager module further operative to notify each of the plurality of controls that it is to be repositioned on the dialog window according to a set of rules governing the position of controls on the dialog window;

an autolayout module operative to communicate to the dialog manager module to reposition the plurality of controls according to the set of rules;

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reposition the plurality of controls according to the set of rules, wherein repositioning the plurality of controls includes moving the plurality of controls from a first position to a second position, wherein the second position is the same relative position on the dialog window after the dialog window has been resized, as the first position of the plurality of controls prior to altering the size of the dialog window to the minimum size; and

the operating system further operative to display the dialog window.

18-19 (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 17, whereby the dialog manager module is further operative;

to construct a bitmap of the dialog window according the selected size;

to position the plurality of controls on the bitmap according to the repositioning of the plurality of controls performed by the auto layout module; and

to designate the bitmap for display by the operating system.

Reason for allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior arts fail to show: "altering the size of the dialog window... wherein the value discarded upon closing the dialog window and the value is calculated upon opening the dialog window...preventing a user from manually shrinking the dialog window below the minimum size."

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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